

Park district wants more funds

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Glen Ellyn Park District users will have a second chance in November to express their opinions about enhanced facilities.

Board officials agreed at Tuesday night's meeting to ask residents to approve a \$12.5 million bond referendum in the fall. The money would be used toward land acquisition and the renovation of Main Street Recreation Center.

Officials are still in the process of discussing details, and may put at least one more project on the table.

"We're still working on some of the specifics of the projects," board President William Dallman said.

So far at least a couple of things have changed this time around.

Because the community expressed much concern about tearing down Main Street Recreation Center, officials plan to renovate the current structure and make it new - all while keeping the same footprint of the building. In other words, the plan is to fix up the building, just as was done with Spring Avenue Recreation Center.

Board members also agreed to remove the Ackerman Park storage and washroom facility and Lake Ellyn Boathouse's renovation projects from the fall referendum.

The amount officials are asking for is consistent with what they asked for in the spring, and Executive Director Cory Atwell advised board members to make the projects work with the budget.

"We went for \$12.5 million last time, and I think it would be difficult to go for more than that," he said. "To have the community feel comfortable, you live within the budget."

If residents approve the referendum request, the tax rate would remain equivalent to what it has been since the 1999 bonds, but the payoff date would be rolled over to 2014. If taxpayers reject the referendum request, taxes will drop by 7 cents and the current bonds would be retired in 2007.